

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/JP2004/007879

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC 7 B41J2/05				
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC				
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B41J				
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched				
Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ				
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>				
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
X	US 6 435 668 B1 (BARBOUR MICHAEL J ET AL) 20 August 2002 (2002-08-20) column 3, line 44 - column 36, line 14 figure 3	1,2,4-8		
X	EP 1 266 758 A (CANON KK) 18 December 2002 (2002-12-18) the whole document	1,2,5-8		
A	US 6 471 324 B1 (MARU HIROYUKI) 29 October 2002 (2002-10-29) the whole document	1,5-8		
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.				
* Special categories of cited documents :				
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top; border: none;">           "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance            "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date            "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)            "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means            "P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed         </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top; border: none;">           "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention            "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone            "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.            "&amp;" document member of the same patent family         </td> </tr> </table>			"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family			
Date of the actual completion of the International search  <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">17 August 2004</div>	Date of mailing of the International search report  <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">25/08/2004</div>			
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Didenot, B</div>			

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/JP2004/007879

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6435668	B1	20-08-2002	NONE
EP 1266758	A	18-12-2002	JP 2002370348 A 24-12-2002 CN 1392050 A 22-01-2003 EP 1266758 A2 18-12-2002 US 2002191037 A1 19-12-2002
US 6471324	B1	29-10-2002	JP 2000141660 A 23-05-2000